

King County Asthma Forum

Section 3 - Increased provider knowledge of asthma management policies and improved environment in childcare settings

(Updated through March 2004)

Objective: Increased provider knowledge of asthma management policies and improved environment in childcare settings.

Strategic Area: Improving childcare management

Description

Children in the AAA target area have working parents and many spend significant time in childcare or recreational activities. During the AAA community needs assessment process, parents and childcare staff requested increased education for childcare sites. Parents worried about their children being with caretakers who do not have adequate education about asthma and its management. The childcare workers expressed anxiety about their level of responsibility given their limited knowledge. Providing environmental assessment and asthma management education to these sites will address these concerns and increase community awareness and comfort with caring for the child with asthma.

AAA and Environmental Protection Agency funds are supporting the Allergy and Asthma Foundation of Washington (AAFA-WA, www.aafawa.org) in hosting trainings for providers serving children from the AAA target neighborhoods through its "Asthma and Allergy Essentials for Child Care Providers" program. The classes are held regularly and providers receive continuing education credits for attending.

In 2003 AAFA-WA and AAA began planning to provide CHW environmental assessments for facilities owned by providers participating in the classes.

Progress

The primary process measures for the childcare intervention involve the number of classes held and providers trained. The primary outcome measure is increased provider knowledge of asthma management practices.

Process Measures

| Process objective | Status/ Indicators | Next steps |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Classes are held | <ul style="list-style-type: none">21 between Oct 14 - May 13, 03 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Classes are ongoing |
| Providers are trained | <ul style="list-style-type: none">398 between Oct 14 – May 13, 03 | |

Outcome Measures

| Outcome objective | Status/ Indicators | Next steps |
|--|--|--|
| Increase provider knowledge of asthma management practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pre/post comparison of number of correct answers (out of 19, except wave 3= 14) on knowledge test : Wave 1: 14.7 to 16.8 * Wave 2: 14.6 to 16.4 * Wave 3: 11.7 to 12.3 * Wave 4: 14.6 to 16.5 * *=p<.05 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wave 5 data are being entered now and includes 6 classes |

Successes, Challenges, and Lessons Learned

Successes:

- **Reached large number of providers.** Between October 14th, 2002 and May 13th, 2003, 21 classes have been held and 398 providers have been trained. And between June and December, 4 classes were held and 75 providers were trained. The classes are marketed effectively as evidenced by the large numbers of providers who voluntarily participated.
- **Courses and presenters were positively received.** Participant evaluations showed that nearly 100% believed that course objectives were met, over 90% rated the presenters as either Good or Excellent, and 99% said they would recommend the course to others.
- **Learning occurred.** Pre-post knowledge test results showed that the total number of correct answers increased.
- **A Spanish version of the class is going to be introduced in 2004.**

Challenges:

- **Class timing makes learning difficult.** Classes are held in the evening after work, and although this time fits best with providers' schedules, it means that providers are often tired. Learning and absorbing information becomes more challenging.
- **Language barriers create some communication barriers.** English is a second language for most providers, and some of the class language (eg, physiology, medications) is difficult to explain so that understanding occurs. During class, providers will attempt to explain to one another what the terms mean, which may distract others that are listening to the instructor.

Lessons Learned:

- **Adapt curricula slightly to** emphasize those knowledge areas that improved only minimally.
- **Maintain existing presenters and the current teaching/presenting styles.** _Instructors consistently receive very positive feedback.